



EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

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Situation Report Winter Storm Event/High Winds Event February 15, 2009 10:00 am

UPDATED INFORMATION IN BOLD

SUMMARY

A Canadian cold front pushed into Missouri on January 26th, mixing with Gulf moisture and creating hazardous weather conditions. High winds on February 11th caused additional damage in southern Missouri. There have been eight fatalities associated with the storm. Six people were killed in traffic accidents that occurred on January 26th. Two more people died in New Madrid County from carbon monoxide poisoning while operating a generator in their garage. **Officials report power is out for about 6,100 customers across southeast Missouri. Dept of Social Services report there is 1 shelter open with 21 clients and one shelter on standby.**

Governor Nixon directed SEMA to activate the State Emergency Operations Center and signed an Executive Order activating the Missouri National Guard for State Emergency Duty. On January 30th, the President approved Gov. Nixon's request for emergency assistance. On February 6th, Governor Nixon sent a letter to the President asking for disaster assistance in 22 impacted counties. The request is being review by FEMA. Governor Nixon signed Executive Order 09-07, authorizing DNR's Director to waive certain restrictions related to debris disposal, open burning and wastewater, on January 30, 2009 and effective until March 31, 2009.

Power outages - Utilities:

Missouri Electric Cooperatives –Cooperatives are reporting approximately **5,900** customers without power with 2300 plus crews working in Southeast Missouri. They are working to have a majority of outages repaired sometime later this weekend. However, some outages will continue into next week.

Missouri Public Utilities Alliance - Approximately **200** customers remain without power in Kennett. **Power is expected to be fully restored by the middle of the week.**

Counties/Cities Reports:

Dunklin County – There are still many power outages in the southern half of the County. Power is still out for Hornersville, Rives, Senath, Arbyrd and Cardwell. All Boil Water Orders have been lifted. Drainage problems and debris removal issues are still occurring in Kennett. All Kennett schools are closed but may re-open Monday.

New Madrid County – Officials report a 59-year-old woman and a 15-year-old girl died from carbon monoxide poisoning from running a generator in the garage at their house. The EOC has returned to normal operations. Some schools re-opened on Monday. Some telephone service is still out.

Pemiscot County – All schools are back in session. Officials reported power is restored to 99% of the county.

Stoddard County – All schools are back in session. No critical needs at this time.

State Agencies:

ESF-1 Transportation - Missouri Department of Transportation reports **2 roads are closed due to utility damage, also reported 2 closures due to the heavy rain on Wednesday**. MoDOT has extended an Emergency Declaration 09-01 for carriers operating in emergency relief efforts in our state.

ESF-2 Communications – MSHP and PSC are working phone problems with the carriers, especially landlines. All wireless service has been restored.

ESF-3 Public Works – DNR/Water is working to assist local jurisdictions with their water utility system issues. They are issuing information on disinfecting water and sending water flushing/boiling guidance to southeast Missouri schools.

ESF-4/9 Fire/Search and Rescue - Missouri State Fire Marshal reports firefighters remain in Kennett under State Mutual Aid system.

ESF-5 Emergency Management - SEMA is at level-two activation and will operate the State EOC from 7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. daily until further notice.

ESF-6 Human Services - Department of Social Services and partners -- American Red Cross, Salvation Army, AmeriCorps, United Way 211, Humane Society and others -- are continuing to serve several communities in the affected area. Shelter population is dwindling (**21** people stayed in **1** overnight shelter, and one other shelter is still on standby). The Multi-Agency Resource Centers (MARC)s registered more than 2,069 people. American Red Cross has six feeding centers open. Over 1,200 meals served.

ESF-7 Logistics –As generators are being freed up, they are being reassigned or returned. MO Office of Administration and Dept. of Corrections continue to have personnel and equipment delivering generators.

ESF- 8 Public Health – Department of Health and Senior Services continues to monitor the situation for emergency health/medical needs. Dept. of Mental Health (DMH) is assisting local healthcare providers as needed. Disaster-related fact sheets are on DMH website.

ESF-10 Hazardous Materials – DNR–EER is monitoring the situation and will respond if needed. Looking into debris management issues.

ESF-11 Agriculture – Dept. of Agriculture is monitoring the situation and handling some poultry issues that have arisen. Agriculture Department is checking building collapses in southeast Missouri and animal carcass removal.

ESF-12 Energy – DNR Energy working to make sure fuel will be available for distribution in the affected area.

ESF-13 Public Safety – Missouri State Highway Patrol has troopers assisting local jurisdictions as requested, working accidents and keeping highways cleared of accidents. Missouri State Water Patrolmen are assisting local jurisdictions in which they live. **Troop D officers are currently working numerous accidents, some with injuries, on I-44 in Jasper and Lawrence Counties as well as US-71 in Jasper County as the result of light snowfall overnight that has melted and refrozen on bridges and overpasses.**

ESF-14 Long Term Recovery – DNR/Parks mobilized crews into New Madrid and Mississippi Counties to begin restoration/recovery efforts at one historical site and one state park. Both locations were damaged in the storm and are without power.

ESF-15 Public Affairs – A two-page Citizen Disaster Information Flyer has been prepared and is now posted on the SEMA homepage.

ESF-16 Missouri National Guard – MONG has its citizen-soldiers assisting with the disaster response effort.

ESF-17 Animal Welfare – A Humane Society of Missouri survey team is in southeast Missouri to assist local jurisdictions. 196 animals rescued to date. Most of the animals have been returned to their owners. A few others are still being cared for until power has been restored to homes of their owners.

Volunteer Agencies:

United Way – 211 – Requests are coming in for replacement food funding and cleanup assistance, electrical weather head, food, water, and home damage should call United Way 211. They have received over 870 plus calls to date.

American Red Cross – 5 fixed feeding sights are in operation in the southeast. Assisting where requested at this time.

AmeriCorps Volunteers – Several Teams are providing support for shelters, multi-agency resource centers, volunteer co-ordination, call-center support and debris removal. Approximately **20 AmeriCorps Volunteers** are working this disaster throughout the area.

Salvation Army – The Salvation Army is assisting with on-going requests, and provided support to the Multi-Agency Resource Centers.

Weather:

Today will be partly sunny this afternoon with temperatures reaching into the low to mid 30s. Winds should be 10 miles per hour throughout the period. Sunday night's temperature are expected to fall into the high teens. Presidents' Day should be similar. Next chance of precipitation will be Tuesday afternoon with rain.

Point of Contact:

The State Emergency Management Agency can be contacted at 573-526-9100 from 7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. daily. Emergency calls after hours can be made to the Duty Officer at 573-751-2748.